

New Course Proposal Form

Directions:

- A. Complete this form.
- B. Attach a syllabus or course guidelines that includes
 - a. list of measurable student learning outcomes
 - b. information on how outcomes will be assessed including descriptions of reading and writing activities, projects, presentations, testing, etc
 - c. list of course requirements such as attendance, assignments, etc
- C. Have your proposal reviewed by the appropriate department and school/college committee.
- D. Submit your proposal to the University Curriculum Committee in care of the Office of Academic Affairs.

Form information:

1. Department/Program: English _____
2. Course Information: ENGL / 1044 / Topics in Literature
Prefix Number Title

3 / None
Credit Hours Prerequisites
3. Catalog Description for the catalog: (This description should briefly describe the basic content of the course as it will be offered.)

This course, which is designed to accommodate non-majors, exposes students to a broad range of literary texts organized around a central topic, theme, or genre. Topics may include: Best Sellers, Utopia/Dystopia in literature, Formula Fiction, Fairy Tales/Folklore, Science Fiction, and Mystery. May be repeated for credit if content differs. May be counted once for English credit.

4. May students repeat this course for credit? If so, are there limits?

This course may count only once toward the English major. The course may otherwise be repeated for credit if content differs.

5. What is the rationale for adding this course?
 - a. How does it support the philosophy and enhance the curriculum of your department?

ENGL 1044 is a topics course designed specifically for non-majors. Students will have the opportunity to learn to understand and appreciate literature as they read texts from a range of possible topics. Non-majors will have the opportunity to explore literature without the expectation that they will become English majors. We currently have no topics courses at the 1000-level, and no courses designed specifically for non-majors. ENGL 1044 will help us expose a broader range of students to literature.

- b. How does it relate to the overall University curriculum?

ENGL 1044 will expand the opportunities for students who wish to learn to read literature, but are not necessarily planning to become English majors. Many of the topics will likely include international literatures, thereby contributing to the international flavor of the department and the university.

6. Should this new course be considered for General Education coding? Yes
If yes, attach the Application for General Education Coding Form.

7. Staffing requirements:

a. Qualifications necessary for instructor Advanced Degree in English or Creative Writing

b. What staffing changes, if any, will be necessary to offer this additional course?
None

8. When will this course be initiated? Fall 2007_____ How often will it be taught? Initially, every other semester; eventually every semester_____ What sites are likely to offer this course? WEBG, and eventually perhaps other sites, as well.

9. Does this course affect degree requirements in your, or any other, department/program's major, emphasis, minor, or certificate. No
If yes, please attach corrected catalog copy for approval.

10. List any existing University course(s), undergraduate or graduate, which are similar in title and /or subject matter and explain how this course differs from them.

The courses closest in content to ENGL 1044 are ENGL 1030 Introduction to Literature and ENGL 2110 Perspectives. ENGL 1030 is a general survey of three genres—drama, poetry, and short fiction—and attracts both English majors and non-majors. ENGL 1044 differs in that it is a topics course, in which each topic covers a specific theme or genre. Furthermore, ENGL 1044 is specifically designed for non-majors, so it should attract students who might not otherwise consider taking an English course and who have an interest in a particular genre. ENGL 2110 Perspectives is a 2000-level topics course that attracts primarily English majors. ENGL 1044 will be taught at a more introductory level, and is designed give beginning students the opportunity to learn to appreciate literature.

11. Are University resources adequate to support this course? (library holdings, space, specialized, equipment, etc.) Yes_____ If not, what additions are necessary?

12. What course(s), if any, will be dropped to make room for this course? None

13. What entities (department, college/school) have reviewed and approved this proposal?

Signatures:

Margot Sempuera / 3.28.07
Department/ Program Chairperson / Date

[Signature] / March 28, 2007
Dean of College/School / Date

_____/ _____
Chair/Curriculum Committee / Date

Course Guidelines for ENGL 1044

Course Description:

This course, which is designed to accommodate non-majors, exposes students to a broad range of literary texts organized around a central topic, theme, or genre. Topics may include: Best Sellers, Utopia/Dystopia in literature, Formula Fiction, Fairy Tales/Folklore, Science Fiction, and Mystery.

Measurable Student Learning Outcomes

1. Students will be acquainted with a variety of primary works associated with the chosen topic of literature. These texts will vary depending on the topic of the course, but all will give the students exposure to a range of literary works clustered around the given theme or genre.
2. Students will develop their ability to think critically about literature and to express their ideas about literature clearly in discussions.
3. Students will learn the conventions of analyzing literary texts in writing, and will be able to express themselves clearly in their written work.
4. Students will learn to explore themes related to the human condition from multiple perspectives as those themes are illuminated in literary texts.

Information on how outcomes will be assessed

1. Students' ability to read and grasp the primary literary text will be assessed through class discussions, short written assignments, longer essays, and exams that test the students' completion and comprehension of the reading assignments.
2. Critical thinking about literature and the ability to discuss literary texts will be assessed through frequent classroom discussions (the class is discussion based), as well as through individual or group presentations.
3. Student writing will be assessed through assigned papers and other short writing assignments. These may be in-class writing assignments, short response papers, and longer essays written about literary texts associated with the topic of the course.
4. Students' ability to explore themes related to the human condition from multiple perspectives will be assessed through class discussion, short writing assignments, longer essays, and exams.

Course Requirements

Students are expected to:

1. attend class regularly.
2. participate in class discussions.
3. complete all presentation assignments.
4. complete all written assignments, including reading checks, in-class writings, short response papers, and longer essays on literary texts.
5. pass a midterm and final exam that test the student's comprehension and ability to think critically and write analytically about literature.